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Identical letters dated 18 February 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Agreement of Goodwill and Confidence-Building for the Settlement of the Problem in Darfur, signed by the Government of National Unity of the Republic of Sudan and the Justice and Equality Movement of Sudan on 17 February 2009, in Doha, State of Qatar, under the auspices of the Government of the State of Qatar and the African Union-United Nations Joint Chief Mediator for Darfur, which was reached within the framework of the Afro-Arab initiative on peace in Darfur (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Salem M. **Al-Shafi**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

09-24299 (E) 230209

Annex to the identical letters dated 18 February 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic, English and French]

In the name of God, the Most Compassionate, the most Merciful

Agreement of Goodwill and Confidence-Building for the Settlement of the Problem in Darfur

Under the kind auspices of the State of Qatar and the AU-UN Joint Chief Mediator for Darfur, a meeting was convened from 10 to 17 February 2009, in Doha, capital of the State of Qatar between a delegation from the Government of National Unity of the Republic of Sudan (GNU) and a delegation from the Justice and Equality Movement Sudan (JEM) to pursue a negotiated peaceful settlement for the Sudan conflict in Darfur.

The two Parties hereby:

Firstly: Highly appreciate the role of the State of Qatar as the Host Country and agree upon Doha as the venue for the talks between them;

Secondly: Appreciate the kind auspices by H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar and the mediation by the esteemed Government of the State of Qatar and the AU-UN Joint Chief Mediator, Mr. Djibril Bassolé;

Thirdly: Recognize the constructive support to the peace process provided by neighbouring countries and the international community;

Fourthly: Declare their intent to work towards ending the ongoing conflict between them, as follows:

1. Give the peace process a strategic priority over other issues to settle the conflict in Darfur;

2. Agree to adopt a comprehensive approach which addresses the root causes of the problem and realizes a lasting peace in the country;

3. Agree to take all necessary measures to create a conducive environment for reaching a lasting settlement of the conflict, including:

   (a) Refrain from all kinds of harassment of IDPs;

   (b) Guarantee the smooth and unobstructed flow of relief assistance to the needy people without any obstacles or constraints;

   (c) Commit to exchange prisoners and release imprisoned, convicted, detained and arrested persons in relation to the conflict between them with a view to building confidence and accelerating the peace process. The State of Qatar and the

AU-UN Joint Chief Mediator will maintain contacts with both parties to work out a timeline for concluding the release of the above-mentioned;

4. Work towards an early framework agreement that leads to cessation of hostilities and lay down the basis for detailed issues;

5. Undertake to follow the framework agreement with serious talks to end the conflict in the shortest possible time, not to exceed three months;

6. Pledge to remain engaged in the peace process and to maintain representatives in Doha to prepare a framework agreement for the final talks.

Done in three languages, in Arabic, English and French, all texts are equally authentic.

Signed in Doha on 17 February 2009.

For the Sudan Government of National Unity	For the Justice and Equality Movement Sudan (JEM)
Dr. Amin Hassan Omer Minister of State Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports	Dr. Gebreil Ibrahim Mohamed Head of the JEM delegation to the Doha talks

Witnessed by:

Ahmed bin Abdulla Al-Mahmoud Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Member of the Cabinet State of Qatar	Djibril Yipènè Bassolé AU-UN Joint Chief Mediator for Darfur